

REMARKS

Claims 6-7 and 20-25 are pending. Claim 6 has been amended and Claim 7 has been canceled. The rejections of the claims are respectfully traversed in light of the following remarks, and reconsideration is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,633,739) (hereinafter "Matsuyama") in view of Takao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,568,293) (hereinafter "Takao").

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Takao and further in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,725,975) (hereinafter "Nakamura").

Claims 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Takao and further in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,567,150).

In rejecting the claims, the Examiner writes in part in the Office Action:

Matsuyama et al . . . do not disclose the peripheral portions of the neighboring color filter overlap and contact each other and having a taper angle less than 40 degrees. Takao et al. do disclose a color filter (B/G/R) can be overlapped and contacted to each other with a taper angle less than 40 degrees (respect to the normal line). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the Matsuyama et al. color filter having at least a part of the peripheral portion overlapping to each other with a taper angle less than 40 degrees as shown by Takao et al. in order to reduce alignment effect (col. 2, ln 9-13).

As the Examiner notes, Matsuyama does not disclose that the peripheral portions of neighboring color filters overlap and contact each other over a black matrix.

Takao discloses an overlap of the peripheral portions of adjacent color filters for the case when a light intercepting layer is not used (Takao, FIG. 4A). Takao does not disclose or suggest the use of a black matrix between and under the interface of overlapping color filters, but instead discloses that a light intercepting layer 117 is formed after the colored patterns 114, 115, 116 are formed on the glass substrate 111 (Takao, col.19, lines 18-23).

Furthermore, if a light intercepting layer is formed beforehand, Takao discloses that "light intercepting layer 10 is formed in the recess [or gap] between the respective color units . . . "

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(Takao, col.4, lines 22-25, col.5, lines 55-56, FIGS. 1, 3, 6). Thus, Takao teaches away from neighboring color filters that overlap and contact each other over a black matrix.

Even if Matsuyama, Takao, Nakamura, and Kim are combined, Applicant submits the references do not show all the elements of amended Claim 6, and in particular the steps of sequentially forming the plurality of color filters.

Amended Claim 6 now recites "sequentially forming a plurality of color filters neighboring each other on the substrate and the black matrix, . . . the peripheral portion overlapping the black matrix and the peripheral portions of the neighboring color filters overlapping and contacting each other, wherein the step of sequentially forming the plurality of color filters comprises . . . patterning the color filter material by using a mask having a transparent pattern, a semitransparent pattern and an opaque pattern, wherein the semitransparent pattern is used for forming the peripheral portion of each color filter and the width of the semitransparent pattern is less than that of the black matrix," in addition to other limitations.

Accordingly, because the cited references, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest all the limitations of Claim 6, Claim 6 is patentable over Matsuyama, Takao, Nakamura, and Kim, alone or in combination.

Claims 20-25 are dependent on Claim 6, and contain additional limitations that further distinguish them from the cited references. Therefore, Claims 20-25 are allowable over Matsuyama, Takao, Nakamura, and Kim, alone or in combination, for at least the same reasons provided above with respect to Claim 6.

Claim 7 has been canceled, thereby obviating the respective rejection.

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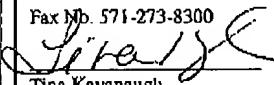
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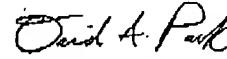
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CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Applicant submits that all pending Claims 6 and 20-25 are now in condition for allowance and allowance of the Application is hereby solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is hereby requested to telephone Applicant's Attorney at (202) 333-4504.

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